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About this Release

Statistics Victoria is a quarterly newsletter primarily targetted to Victorian state and local government users providing information about new developments, recent statistical releases, seminars, training and reviews.

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LANEWAYS

A MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Welcome to the first Statistics Victoria newsletter for 2011. What a busy and memorable year it will be.

In the last couple of weeks we have seen the impact of flooding across Eastern Australia including significant areas of regional Victoria and our thoughts are with those who have been affected by the floods. The ABS recognises that these floods have affected thousands of households and businesses and is currently reviewing its statistical collection strategies and assessing the impacts on particular ABS data series. Wherever possible, the ABS will adapt statistical methods to take account of any loss of source data. Extra commentary will be included in publications about: the real-world impact of the disaster reflected in statistics; the impact on the quality of the statistics; and any adjustments to standard methodology that occurred.

The Census of Population and Housing will be held on August 9, providing vital information to help us understand how Australia, Victoria and our communities are changing. Leading up to this, the ABS will be hosting the Census | beyond the count conference on March 2-4 to showcase the innovative ways Census data can be used.

The ABS is releasing the Australian Statistical Geography Standard which will be used for the first time in the 2011 Census, and progressively replace the current geographical framework over the next few years.

We will also be running the Agricultural Census in June 2011 to measure agricultural activity across the country and collect information about trends in farm management, water use and environmental issues.

The Australian Health Survey will also begin in 2011. This will be Australia's biggest and most comprehensive survey conducted on the health of Australians. The data produced will help inform future health strategies and policy decisions.

We will continue to collect and release economic, social and environment statistics to enable all levels of government, business, media and the general community to assess how Australia is progressing, and to inform decision making processes.

In 2011, the ABS will further work with partner agencies across Government and other agencies to build the National Statistical Service (NSS). The NSS mission is to ensure that administrative and other statistical data held by government agencies is accessible, coherent and most efficiently brought together to produce valuable high quality official statistics. The Victorian ABS Office will also be providing a range of statistical training and capability building activities this year, and we look forward to working with all our clients to make the use of high quality information easier.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for continuing to support the development, production and use of statistics that inform evidence based policy and to wish you all the very best for the year ahead.

Lane Masterton

Regional Director
ABS Victoria

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

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Registrations are now open for Census | beyond the count!

CENSUS | BEYOND THE COUNT CONFERENCE

Join us at Census | beyond the count and discover the difference that the Census makes.

Registrations are now open for the **Census | beyond the count** conference, to be held 2-4 March 2011 at Hilton on the Park, Melbourne. Registration costs \$850 and includes:

- access to both days of the **Census | beyond the count** conference program
- morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea on both conference days
- canapes and beverages at the Welcome Reception
- a three course dinner, beverages and entertainment at the Conference Dinner
- conference satchel bag.

Visit the conference website - www.abs.gov.au/beyondthecount - to register online and view the conference program.

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WORLD STATISTICS DAY CELEBRATIONS

The first World Statistics Day was celebrated - nationally and internationally - on 20 October 2010. Celebrations were held around the country, both within the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and across the statistical community, to raise awareness of the many achievements and contributions official statistics make to our communities.

World Statistics Day was celebrated in the Victorian Office with excitement, cake and of course, stats! The lead up to World Statistics Day saw Victorian staff take part in a statistical quiz, and on the day the Victorian Office held a morning tea to celebrate and thank staff and clients for their contribution to National Statistics.

This event was well attended by ABS staff and a range of invited guests from the Victorian State Government. Regional Director Lane Masterton addressed staff and guests, reflecting on the impact of statistics throughout history and the importance of celebrating our achievements, before the ceremonial first cut into the World Statistics Day cake.

Thank you to all staff and guests who took part in the celebrations for the first World Statistics Day!



ANIMATED POPULATION PYRAMIDS FOR VICTORIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS (LGAs)

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has produced an exciting new way to view the population history for Victoria and the state's Local Government Areas.

The Population Pyramid is an animated graphic that provides a visual demonstration of the change over time in the age and sex population distribution for areas in Victoria, based on where people live.

A population pyramid is a useful tool in revealing information about a population's history. The Victorian LGA population pyramids show the population at June 30 each year from 1986 to 2009.

Users can select Victoria or any of the state's Local Government Areas. Once on the population pyramid page, select an area of interest from the drop down menu and click the play button to the bottom right of the pyramid to see the animation.

For further information see State and Regional Indicators, Victoria, Sep 2010 (cat. no. 1367.2).

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PLANNING FOR BUSINESS: USING STATISTICS FOR BUSINESS OR FRANCHISE PLANNING

Australians regularly provide the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) with information about their working life; how and where they live; family characteristics and structures; what they spend their money on; and their hobbies or recreational activities. This wealth of information enables us to put together a picture of Australia.

If you are considering starting up, or you're already in a small or medium sized business, we have information to help you. This brochure provides some examples of how statistics can assist you in making informed business decisions, such as locating potential clients, assessing site location, and supporting your business case.



LOCATING REGIONAL AND LOCAL DATA ON THE ABS WEBSITE

Statistics for various types of small regions are available for many standard data sets from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). Using this guide you can locate regional and local data by Topic or by Location type.

Not all ABS data items are available for small areas, usually because they have been collected by sample surveys. If you can't find the data you're looking for on the ABS website, contact our free National Information & Referral Service (NIRS) on 1300 135 070 to find out whether data are available for your area of interest. NIRS will advise on the availability of the data you are looking for and if necessary forward your request to the Information Consultancy Service for a quote.

A factsheet is also available for download.

EMAIL NOTIFICATION SERVICE

Subscribe to our free email notification service to receive the latest ABS information via email. You can receive news about our latest releases, or be advised when new publications become available for the topics you are interested in.

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RECENT RELEASES

The Recent Releases section provides a brief overview of selected publications released in the last quarter. Emphasis is on Victorian and lower level data for those publications where it is available. We encourage you to follow the links to the relevant publications to find out more.

For a comprehensive list of ABS releases, including monthly and quarterly publications, please visit [Statistics by Release Date](#).

For a list of upcoming ABS releases, please visit [ABS Release Advice](#).

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- Environment and Energy Statistics
- Agriculture and Industry Statistics
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Census Releases

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CENSUS RELEASES

Census Data Enhancement Project: An Update, Oct 2010 (cat. no. 2062.0) – released 15/10/10

Commencing with the 2006 Census, the ABS began a project to enhance the value of Census data by bringing it together with other datasets to leverage more information from the combination of individual datasets than is available from the datasets separately.

The Census Data Enhancement (CDE) project improves and expands the range of official statistics available to Australian society, and improves the evidence base to support good government policy making, program management and service delivery.

This paper provides an update with respect to the project for the 2011 Census of Population and Housing.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Arts and Culture in Australia: A Statistical Overview, 2010 (cat. no. 4172.0) – released 19/10/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory; Metropolitan, Ex-metropolitan

This publication presents a statistical overview of culture and the arts in Australia. The information is drawn from a variety of data sources, including Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data and non-ABS data, to provide a more complete picture of cultural industries. In this publication, the cultural sector is defined as those industries in the 'Heritage' and 'Arts' divisions of the industry classification of the Australian Culture and Leisure Classifications (ACLC).

The participation rate for all children in Australia who played a musical instrument in the 12 months to April 2009 was almost 20%. The participation rate ranged from 24% in the Northern Territory to 17% in Victoria. There was no significant change between 2006 and 2009 for any state or territory.

In 2009, there were 358,400 (21%) children in metropolitan areas and 177,000 (17%) in ex-metropolitan areas who played a musical instrument. Children who reside in metropolitan areas recorded a significantly higher participation rate than those who resided in ex-metropolitan areas in

2006 and 2009. Access to tuition for children in ex-metropolitan areas may be a factor in the lower participation rate.

To find out more, including information about tourism, household expenditure on culture, libraries and archives, and environmental heritage, please visit the publication.

Attendance at Selected Cultural Venues and Events, Australia, 2009-10 (cat. no. 4114.0) – released 21/12/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This publication presents results from the 2009-10 Multipurpose Household Survey (MPHS) on the attendance of people aged 15 years and over at selected cultural venues and events. The survey collected data about the demographic characteristics of those who attended the surveyed venues and events and their frequency of attendance during the 12 month period prior to interview.

During the 12 months before interview in 2009-10, 15.0 million or 86% of the Australian population aged 15 years and over (17.5 million) attended at least one of the cultural venues and events asked about in the survey. The highest attendance rates were at cinemas (67% of people aged 15 years and over), zoological parks and aquariums (37%), botanic gardens (35%) and libraries (34%).

Attendance rates for people living in the six state capital cities were generally higher when compared with people living in the balance of state/territory. The largest differences were for people attending cinemas (71% and 61% respectively), botanic gardens (38% and 31% respectively) and zoological parks and aquariums (39% and 33% respectively)

To find out more, including information about age and sex, country of birth, and state/territory level data, please visit the publication.

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Australian Social Trends, Dec 2010 (cat. no. 4102.0) – released 14/12/10

Australian Social Trends is a quarterly publication which draws together a wide range of statistics, from the ABS and other official sources, to provide a picture of Australian society and how it is changing over time.

The latest edition features the following articles:

- *One for the country: recent trends in fertility* - With almost 300,000 births registered in both 2008 and 2009, and well over a quarter million per year in the three years before that, the last half decade has seen more babies born to Australian women than any previous five year period.
- *Australian households: the future* - In 2006, there were a total of 7.8 million households in Australia. By 2031, the number of households is projected to grow to between 11.4 and 11.8 million.
- *Moving house* - Of people aged 15 years and over, over one-quarter (27%) had been living in their current home for 15 years or more, 30% had been there for 5–14 years, and 43% had moved in the last five years.

National and state indicators are also included, which show a range of statistics covering different social areas both at a national as well as state and territory level. Released in December were indicators for: Housing, Family and Community, International Comparisons, and Work.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Births, Australia, 2009 (cat. no. 3301.0) – released 03/11/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory; Statistical Division;

This publication brings together statistics for live births and fertility in Australia, states and territories, and sub-state regions, based on calendar year of registration data. Information on characteristics of the child include place of usual residence, sex, Indigenous status, as well as the age, marital status and country of birth of parents.

In 2009, Australia's total fertility rate (TFR) was 1.90 babies per woman, a small decrease from 1.96 babies per woman in 2008. At the national level, the teenage fertility rate was 17 babies per 1,000 women aged 15-19 years in 2009.

Of the states and territories, the Australian Capital Territory recorded the lowest TFR of 1.74 babies per woman, while Victoria recorded the second lowest with 1.80 babies per woman. Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory also recorded the lowest teenage fertility rates (both 10 babies per 1,000 women) and had the oldest mothers in Australia, with a median age of 31.5 and 31.4 years respectively.

To find out more, including information about replacement fertility, and multiple births, please visit the publication.

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Causes of Death, Australia: Doctor Certified Deaths, Summary Tables, 2009 (cat. no. 3303.0.55.001) – released 13/12/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This publication contains summary information relating to cause of death for those deaths certified by doctors. It should be noted that these data represent only a subset of all causes of death, and that the numbers presented here are not comprehensive. Doctor certified deaths accounted for 86.7% of all deaths registered in 2009. The remainder are reported to, and certified by, a coroner.

There were 140,760 doctor and coroner certified deaths registered in Australia in 2009. This was 3,186 (2.2%) less than the number registered in 2008 (143,946). The standardised death rate (SDR) in 2009 was 5.7 deaths per 1,000 standard population. This continues a steady decline in the standardised death rate over the past decade from 7.1 deaths per 1,000 in 1999.

The proportion of deaths certified by a doctor varies between jurisdictions. The proportions for all jurisdictions in 2009 were comparable with the previous year.

To find out more, including information about underlying causes of death, please visit the publication.

Children's Participation in Sport and Leisure Time Activities, 2000 to 2009 (cat. no. 4901.0.55.001) – released 12/11/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This publication looks at changes to children's participation in sport and other recreational activities over time, using data from the 2000, 2003, 2006 and 2009 surveys of Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities.

The rate of children's participation in sport and/or dancing increased from 64% in 2000 to 69% in 2009. The greatest increase in participation in organised sport and/or dancing by children aged 5 to 14 years between 2000 and 2009 was seen in Victoria (63% to 72%) followed by South Australia (65% to 71%).

To find out more, including information about the characteristics of participants, such as age and sex, as well as information on the duration and frequency of participation, please visit the publication.

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Deaths, Australia, 2009 (cat. no. 3302.0) – released 10/11/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory; Statistical Division; Statistical Subdivision; Local Government Area; Statistical Local Area

This publication brings together statistics on deaths and mortality for Australia, states and territories, and sub-state regions. Information on characteristics of the deceased include place of usual residence, age at death, sex, Indigenous status and country of birth. Information is also provided on infant deaths, life expectancy and death rates.

During 2009, there were 140,800 deaths (72,300 males and 68,400 females) registered in Australia, a decrease of 3,200 deaths (or 2.2%) compared with the number of deaths registered in 2008 (143,900).

Some data for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians are excluded in this publication for Victoria due to small numbers of registered deaths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

To find out more, including tables and data cubes with small area data, please visit the publication.

Defining Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-owned Businesses, 2010 (cat. no. 4731.0) – released 05/10/10

The issues involved in defining and measuring Indigenous economic development are diverse. As a starting point, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) will focus on defining a measure of small-to-medium, privately-owned, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-owned businesses to underpin efforts to measure economic development more broadly. This discussion paper puts forward a proposed definition of such a business.

This discussion paper is designed to be a basis for further stakeholder consultation. A workshop will be held in the first half of 2011 to discuss the draft definition. If you would like to be involved in this workshop, please register your interest by calling (freecall) 1800 633 216.

To find out more, including the full definition and a background to its development, please visit the publication.

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Life Tables, Victoria, 2007-2009 (cat. no. 3302.2.55.001) – released 07/12/10

Data available at the following geographic level: State

This product contains life tables for males and females resident in Victoria for the reference period. A life table is a statistical model used to represent the mortality of a population. In its simplest form, a life table is generated from age-specific death rates and the resulting values are used to measure mortality, survivorship and life expectancy.

To view the tables, please visit the publication.

Marriages and Divorces, Australia, 2009 (cat. no. 3310.0) – released 03/12/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This publication provides data and information about marriages registered and divorces granted in Australia in 2009. Data are presented on a state or territory of registration basis rather than a state or territory of usual residence basis.

In 2009, there were 120,118 marriages registered in Australia, an increase of 1,362 (1.1%) from 2008. This is the highest level of marriages on record. Despite this increase, the crude marriage rate has remained unchanged at 5.5 marriages per 1,000 estimated resident population since 2006.

In 2009 the number of divorces granted in all states and territories was higher than in 2008, with the largest increase occurring in New South Wales by 703 (5.1%) to 14,617, Victoria by 537 (4.6%) to 12,160, and Queensland by 559 (5.3%) to 11,174.

To find out more, including information about age, marriage celebrants, and divorces involving children, please visit the publication.

Participation in Sport and Physical Recreation, Australia, 2009-10 (cat. no. 4177.0) – released 21/12/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This publication presents results from the 2009-10 Multipurpose Household Survey (MPHS) relating to participation in sport and physical recreation. The survey collected data about the characteristics of persons aged 15 years and over who participated in sport and physical recreation activities as players, competitors or persons who physically took part in the activity. People who were involved in non-playing roles, such as coaches, umpires or club officials were excluded from the data.

For the purpose of sport, recreation or exercise, nearly two-thirds of the Australian population aged 15 years and over (64% or 11.1 million people) reported that they had participated in sport and physical recreation at least once during the 12 months prior to interview in 2009-10.

The participation rates for sport and physical recreation were highest in the Australian Capital Territory (77%) and Northern Territory (72%). For the states, the participation rates ranged from 62% in South Australia to 65% in Western Australia. Walking for exercise was the most popular activity reported in all states and territories, with a participation rate of 24% in Victoria. Other popular activities in Victoria were aerobics, fitness and gym activities (14%) and cycling and jogging or running (both 7.5%).

To find out more, including information about the characteristics of participants, such as employment status and household composition, please visit the publication.

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Prisoners in Australia, 2010 (cat. no. 4517.0) – released 09/12/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This publication presents information from the National Prisoner Census about persons held in Australian prisons on the night of 30 June 2010. The National Prisoner Census covers all prisoners in the legal custody of adult corrective services in adult prisons, including periodic detainees in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory. It excludes persons held in juvenile institutions, psychiatric custody and police custody.

At 30 June 2010 there were 29,700 prisoners (sentenced and unsentenced) in Australian prisons, an increase of 1% (383 prisoners) from 30 June 2009. This represented a national imprisonment rate of 170 prisoners per 100,000 adult population. The median aggregate sentence length for all sentenced prisoners was 3 years.

At 30 June 2010, Victorian prisoners had the oldest median age at 35.4 years, more than four years older than the median age of prisoners in the Australian Capital Territory, which had the youngest prisoner population (31.2 years).

To find out more, including information about sex, most serious offence/charge, and prior imprisonment, please visit the publication.

Spectator Attendance at Sporting Events, 2009-10 (cat. no. 4174.0) – released 21/12/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This publication presents results from the 2009-10 Multipurpose Household Survey (MPHS) relating to attendance at sporting events. The survey collected data about the characteristics of persons aged 15 years and over who attended sporting events as spectators (excluding junior and school sport).

Over two-fifths of the Australian population aged 15 years and over (43% or 7.6 million) reported that they had attended a sporting event during the 12 months prior to interview in 2009-10. The highest attendance rates were reported for Australian Rules football (16%) and horse racing (11%). The attendance rate at sporting events in 2009-10 (43%) was similar to that in 2005-06 (44%), with the top 5 sports remaining the most popular to attend.

Attendance rates at sporting events varied across the states and territories for the most popular sports. Attendance at Australian Rules football in Victoria was 33% (1.4 million), compared with 4% (0.2 million) in New South Wales. Rugby league reported attendance rates of 17% (598,000) in Queensland, compared with 0.6% (7,300) in South Australia

To find out more, including information about the characteristics of spectators, such as household income and educational attainment, as well as frequency of attendance and changes over time, please visit the publication.

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Sports and Physical Recreation: A Statistical Overview, Australia, Oct 2010 (cat. no. 4156.0) – released 22/10/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory; Capital cities, Rest of Australia

This publication presents an overview of sport and physical recreation in Australia. ABS data relating to participation in sport and physical activity; time spent on sport and outdoor activities; and sport attendance are obtained from a variety of data collections.

During the 12 months prior to interview for the 2009 Survey of Children's Participation in Culture and Leisure Activities, 1.7 million or 63% of children aged 5-14 years participated in at least one sport outside of school hours that had been organised by a school, club or association. The participation rates of children living in capital cities and children living elsewhere in Australia were similar at 63% and 64% respectively. The participation rate for children in sport varied across the states and territories, ranging from 58% in Tasmania to 71% in the Australian Capital Territory, with a 69% participation rate in Victoria.

To find out more, including information about the most popular sports played, and the economic activity of businesses, clubs and associations involved in providing sport and physical recreation goods and services, please visit the publication.

The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, Oct 2010 (cat. no. 4704.0) – released 29/10/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; Remote, Non-remote

This release provides a comprehensive statistical overview, largely at the national level, of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and welfare.

What's new in the October issue:

- *Social and emotional wellbeing* (new) – In 2008, 72% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 years and over (adults) reported being a happy person all or most of the time, with rates higher among adults living in remote areas (78%) than non-remote areas (71%).
- *Housing circumstances* – In 2008, the majority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults lived in housing that was rented (69%). More Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults were living in housing that was being purchased in 2008 (20%) than in 2002 (17%).

- *Access to health and community services* – Nationally, just over one-quarter (26%) of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 years and over (adults) reported problems such as long waiting times and cost in accessing one or more health services. Dentists, doctors and hospitals were the health services where problems were most likely to be experienced (by 20%, 10% and 7% of adults respectively).

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Economic and Labour Statistics

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Australian National Accounts: State Accounts, 2009-10 (cat. no. 5220.0) – released 19/11/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This publication contains state and territory estimates of gross domestic product (referred to as Gross state product and its components), in current price and volume terms, for the years 2001-02 to 2009-10.

The volume measure of Gross state product (GSP) increased in all states in 2009-10. Western Australia (WA) experienced the strongest growth (up 4.3%), and was the only state to exceed the national gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate of 2.3%. Growth in remaining states varied between 0.4% for Tasmania and 2.0% for Victoria.

To find out more, including information about GSP per capita, real gross state income, and state final demand, please visit the publication.

Education and Work, Australia, May 2010 (cat. no. 6227.0) – released 24/11/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This publication presents information about the educational experience and associated characteristics of persons aged 15 to 64 years and persons aged 65 to 74 years who are in the labour force or marginally attached to the labour force, especially in relation to their labour force status.

In May 2010, 53% of people aged 15-64 years who were enrolled in a course of study were female, 41% were aged 15-19 years, 64% were studying full-time, and 26% were born overseas.

To find out more, including information about transition from education to work, type of educational institution, and state/territory level data, please visit the publication.

Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia, 2009-10 (cat. no. 6248.0.55.002) – released 16/12/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This publication contains estimates of number of public sector employees and cash wages and salaries by level of government by state. It also contains estimates of number of public sector employees and cash wages and salaries by industry for Australia.

In June 2010 there were 1,843,500 public sector employees. There were 243,700 employees in Commonwealth government, 1,414,400 in state government and 185,400 in local government.

To find out more, including state/territory level data, please visit the publication.

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Information Paper: Changes to Managed Funds, Australia to incorporate revised international standards, 2010 (cat. no. 5655.0.55.002) – 28/10/10

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) compiles a range of financial statistics from surveys conducted by the ABS and from information obtained from regulatory sources. The statistics are important inputs to Australia's national accounts, particularly the financial accounts.

The ABS introduced revised international standards for the national accounts in late 2009. The revised international standards were implemented into the Survey of Financial Information (SFI) in 2009 and are now being reflected in the associated publication Managed Funds, Australia (cat. no. 5655.0), beginning with the latest issue (September 2010 quarter) which was released 03/12/10.

This paper:

- describes the main changes to the international standards;
- describes the impact on the presentation of statistics in Managed Funds, Australia;
- presents the revised formatted publication (pdf) tables and related spreadsheets; and
- provides a concordance between the current and revised time series identifiers.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Wage and Salary Earner Statistics for Small Areas, Time Series, 2003-04 to 2007-08 (cat. no. 5673.0.55.003) – released 06/10/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory; Statistical Division; Statistical Local Area

This article and the accompanying data are provided to support analyses of local economic conditions for regions throughout Australia. It illustrates ways that wage and salary data can be used to explore regional variations in income. The data are produced by the ABS using personal income tax (PIT) information from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Across Victoria there were more male wage and salary earners than female earners, with males accounting for almost 52% of the wage and salary earner population. The top five Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) in Melbourne Statistical Division (SD) were all characterised by a higher proportion of female earners than the state average, however in only one of these SLAs - Boroondara (C) - Kew - did the proportion of female wage and salary earners exceed the proportion of male earners.

Outside of the Melbourne SD, four of the top five SLAs in Victoria were consistent with the state, in that the proportion of male wage and salary earners exceeded female earners. The exception was Newtown, where the proportion of female wage and salary earners equalled that of male earners.

To find out more, including information about top average wage and salary incomes, age, occupation, and income ranges, please visit the publication.

Work-Related Injuries, Australia, 2009-10 (cat. no. 6324.0) – released 13/12/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This publication presents information about persons aged 15 years and over who worked at some time in the last 12 months and experienced their most recent work-related injury or illness in that period.

Of the 12 million people who had worked at some time in the last 12 months, 5.3% experienced a work-related injury or illness during that same period. The majority (88%) of the 640,700 people who experienced a work-related injury or illness continued to work in the job where their injury or illness occurred.

In 2009-10, approximately 53 people per 1,000 people who had worked at some time in the last 12 months experienced a work-related injury or illness in that time, a decrease from the 2005-06 estimate (64 people per 1000 people).

To find out more, including information about occupation and industry, sources of financial assistance, and state/territory level data, please visit the publication.

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[Towards an integrated environmental-economic account for Australia, 2010](#)

[Water Account, Australia, 2008-09](#)

Environmental Issues: Water use and Conservation, Mar 2010 (cat. no. 4602.0.55.003) – released 19/11/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory; Capital Cities, Outside Capital Cities

This publication presents information about water usage and water conservation practices of Australian households. It covers a range of topics including household water sources, water usage, and water saving practices inside and outside the dwelling.

Mains or town water continued to be the most common source of water for Australian households in 2010, with 93% of households being connected to either mains or town water. Nearly all households in capital cities (99%) were connected to mains or town water compared with 84% of households outside the capital cities.

South Australia continues to have the highest proportion of households with a rainwater tank (49%) but there was a marked increase in the proportion of households with a rainwater tank in Queensland and Victoria. Rainwater tank use in Victoria increased from 17% in 2007 to 30% in 2010.

To find out more, including information about water for drinking, water filters, and government rebates and incentives, please visit the publication.

Towards an integrated environmental-economic account for Australia, 2010 (cat. no. 4655.0.55.001) – released 25/11/10

High quality information is needed to inform decision-making. Environmental policy decisions are particularly complex because they typically involve consideration of many (often competing) values. Articulation and identification of these values is difficult, and of the elements which are measurable, resources have constrained the breadth and depth of information available.

Within Australia, and in many countries, responsibilities for environmental and economic policies are institutionally separated. So too are the information systems that inform those policies. Given that economic policies have environmental impacts and vice versa, policy-making can suffer from the absence of an information system that can articulate these linkages.

This paper describes the concept of environmental-economic accounting as a means of linking the environment and economy, and proposes a new set of work by the ABS to inform these linkages.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Water Account, Australia, 2008-09 (cat. no. 4610.0) – released 29/11/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This publication presents information on the supply and use of water in the Australian economy in 2008-09, compiled in accordance with the System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting.

Water consumption in Victoria was 2,991 GL in 2008-09, the third highest volume in Australia. This represents a 40% decrease from 2004-05 when water consumption was 4,993 GL. Total water consumption was 549 kL per capita. This is the second lowest in Australia, below the Australian average of 642 kL per capita.

Household water consumption for Victoria was 342 GL or 11% of the state's total water consumption. This has increased from 405 GL in 2004-05.

Agricultural activities consumed 1,593 GL or 53% of the total water consumption, a 51% decrease from 2004-05 when agricultural activities consumed 3,281 GL. The manufacturing industry consumed 158 GL or 5% of total water consumption in Victoria, an increase from 114 GL in 2004-05.

To find out more, including information about water distribution losses, and reuse water, please visit the publication.

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Principal Agricultural Commodities, Australia, Preliminary, 2009-10
Research and Experimental Development, All Sector Summary, Australia, 2008-09
Vineyards Estimates, Australia, 2009-10

Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits, Jun 2007 to Jun 2009 (cat. no. 8165.0) – released 21/10/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory; Statistical Local Area

This publication presents business counts, including data measuring levels and rates of business entries to and exits from the Australian economy, and business survival. Detailed counts are presented by industry, main state and territory, type of legal organisation, institutional sector, employment size ranges and annual turnover size ranges.

In June 2009, Australia had more than 2 million businesses. The highest proportion of Australian businesses were in the construction industry (17%), followed by professional, scientific and technical services (11%). Rental, hiring and real estate services accounted for 10% of all Australian businesses.

At June 2009, the proportion of businesses by state (as defined by the main state of operation) was broadly aligned with the proportion of Australia's population by State. New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia were the only states which contained a higher proportion of businesses than people.

To find out more, including information about institutional sector, employment size ranges, and type of legal organisation, please visit the publication.

Experimental Estimates of the Gross Value of Irrigated Agricultural Production, 2000-01 – 2008-09 (cat. no. 4610.0.55.008) – released 29/11/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory; Natural Resource Management Region

Gross Value of Irrigated Agricultural Production (GVIAP) estimates have been a core component of the ABS Water Account Australia (cat. no. 4610.0) which is produced every four years. Growing demand from policy-makers and other users has led to increasing pressure on the ABS to produce more accurate and frequent estimates of GVIAP at a sub-state geographic level. This product presents the ABS response to these information needs.

In 2008–09, irrigated agricultural land comprised less than 0.5% of all agricultural land in Australia. The gross value of production from irrigation was \$11,953 million, which represented 28.6% of the total gross value of agricultural production. The gross value of production from irrigation was only slightly down from 2007–08, when GVIAP was \$12,311 million and represented 28.5% of the total gross value of agricultural production.

The states which contributed the most to the value of irrigated production during 2008–09 were Victoria, \$3,266 million (27% of Australia's total GVIAP), and Queensland \$3,255 million (also 27% of the Australian total).

The Natural Resource Management (NRM) region producing the most GVIAP in 2008–09 was Goulburn-Broken, in the Murray-Darling Basin in central Victoria. The GVIAP for this region was \$810 million, a decrease of 22% from 2007–08. The NRM with the next highest GVIAP in 2008–09 was South Australia Murray-Darling Basin (\$756 million, down 16% from 2007–08).

To find out more, including information about commodity groups, and volume of water used for

irrigation, please visit the publication.

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Information Paper: Changes to the Motor Vehicle Census date, 31 Mar 2010 (cat. no. 9309.0.55.002) – released 02/11/10

This information paper describes the changes to the date for the Motor Vehicle Census. The Motor Vehicle Census utilises data from motor vehicle registration authorities within Australia for vehicles registered at a point in time.

With the change of reference period for the Survey of Motor Vehicle Use (see Information Paper: [Changes to the Survey of Motor Vehicle Use](#) (cat. no. 9208.0.55.006) for further information), the date for the [Motor Vehicle Census, Australia](#) (cat. no. 9309.0) will also change; from 31 March to 31 January.

The next census date will be brought forward to 31 January 2011 and the output for this census date will be released in September 2011.

To find out more, including a summary of time line changes, please visit the publication.

Information Paper: Changes to the Survey of Motor Vehicle Use, 12 months ended 31 Oct 2010 (cat. no. 9208.0.55.006) – released 02/11/10

This information paper describes changes to the Survey of Motor Vehicle Use from the October 2007 reference period onwards. The Survey of Motor Vehicle Use is a sample survey conducted by the ABS to provide statistics on passenger vehicle, motor cycle, truck and bus use, for characteristics such as distance travelled, tonne-kilometres and fuel consumption. The survey includes all vehicles that were registered with a motor vehicle authority for road use at some stage during the 12 month reference period.

The survey will now be conducted biennially (every two years). In order to improve relevance to users, the time period covered by the survey will be changed from the 12 month period ending 31 October and will now cover the 12 month period ending 30 June, aligning the period to a financial year.

To find out more, including a summary of time line changes, please visit the publication.

Principal Agricultural Commodities, Australia, Preliminary, 2009-10 (cat. no. 7111.0) – released 11/11/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This publication contains preliminary estimates of principal agricultural commodities and livestock numbers for 2009-10, presented for states/territories and Australia. National comparative data for the previous two years are also available. Additional state/territory and national data for wheat grain storage and use and grain storage capacity are available for download with this publication.

Production of barley for grain in 2009-10 fell by 1% to 7.9 million tonnes. The majority of production was in Western Australia (2.6 million tonnes), South Australia (2.1 million tonnes) and Victoria (1.9 million tonnes).

Total production of oats for grain in 2009-10 rose by 2% to 1.2 million tonnes, despite drought conditions impacting on yields in New South Wales. In Western Australia, production was 506,000 tonnes, in Victoria 297,000 tonnes and in New South Wales 219,000 tonnes.

To find out more, including information about other crops and livestock, please visit the publication.

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Research and Experimental Development, All Sector Summary, Australia, 2008-09 (cat. no.

8112.0) – released 11/10/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory

This release presents summary statistics on Research and Experimental Development (R&D) undertaken by Australian organisations within the Business, Government, Higher education and Private non-profit sectors for the 2008-09 reference period.

Gross expenditure on R&D (GERD) and Gross human resources devoted to R&D represent the total expenditure and human resources devoted to R&D by the Business, Government, Higher education and Private non-profit sectors. In 2008-09, Australian GERD was \$27.7 billion, an increase of \$6.0 billion (or 27%) since 2006-07.

New South Wales and Victoria accounted for over half (55%) of GERD in 2008-09, at \$8.3 billion and \$7.1 billion, respectively.

To find out more, including information about GERD and gross domestic product, sector, industry, type of expenditure, and source of funds, please visit the publication.

Vineyards Estimates, Australia, 2009-10 (cat. no. 1329.0.55.002) – released 13/10/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory; Geographical Indication Zone

This publication presents estimates from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) 2010 Vineyards collection. Included are statistics on the area and production of wine grapes and summary information by wine grape variety. The publication presents data for Australia and states and territories, with sub-state data based on Geographical Indication (GI) Zones provided in an attached data cube.

Total wine grape production in 2010 was 1.5 million tonnes, a decrease from 1.7 million tonnes the previous year. South Australia remained the largest producing state with 731 thousand tonnes. New South Wales was the next largest producing state with 443 thousand tonnes, followed by Victoria with 284 thousand tonnes.

To find out more, including information about area of vines and grape production, please visit the publication.

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[Quality Management of Statistical Processes Using Quality Gates, Dec 2010](#)

[Research Paper: Sample Design Frameworks for ABS Household Surveys \(Methodology Advisory Committee\), Jun 2010](#)

[Research Paper: The Use of Scores to Detect and Prioritise Anomalous Estimates \(Methodology Advisory Committee\), Nov 2009](#)

Australian Bureau of Statistics – Annual Report, 2009-10 (cat. no. 1001.0) – released 27/10/10

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Annual Report provides an overview of the operations of the ABS for the year ended 30 June 2010.

In the past 12 months, the ABS has continued to build a modern statistical organisation, with a focus on corporate realignment, technology investment and a statistical program that is growing in complexity. Significant achievements were posted across our statistical divisions, with a focus on meeting complex information demands in the economic, social, population and environment spheres – the four pillars of the ABS statistics program.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 – Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, July 2011 (cat. no. 1270.0.55.001) – released 23/12/10

This publication is the first volume of a series detailing the new Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). It deals with the ASGS Main Structure (Statistical Area Levels 1 - 4) and the Greater Capital City Statistical Areas.

The ASGS will be progressively introduced through the various ABS collections. It will replace the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) as the main geographical framework for the 2011 Census of Population and Housing, although data on Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) and those regions aggregated from SLAs will still be available for 2011. All ABS collections should be reporting on ASGS units by 2013.

Any enquires regarding the ASGS, or suggestions for its improvement can be made by emailing geography@abs.gov.au.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Australian Statistics Advisory Council – Annual Report, 2009-10 (cat. no. 1002.0) – released 27/10/10

ASAC is the key advisory body to the Minister and the Statistician on statistical services. It provides valuable input to the directions and priorities of the ABS work program and reports annually to the Parliament.

The Council meets twice yearly and met in November 2009 and May 2010 with discussions covering a broad range of topics including:

- the National Statistical Service;
- data integration;
- the ABS work program and resources including international collaboration with other National Statistical Offices;
- the Australian Health Survey; and
- preparation for the 2011 Census.

In particular, approaches to the better utilisation of administrative data, while protecting the security of individual and personal information, have occupied much of ASAC's discussion during the year.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

National Regional Profile, 2005 to 2009 (cat. no. 1379.0.55.001) – released 22/11/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: Statistical Division; Statistical Subdivision; Statistical Local Area; Local Government Area



National Regional Profiles use a Google Maps based interface to make it easier to find information on Local Government Areas and other types of regions across Australia.

The latest regional profiles include new information on tourist accommodation and additional government payments. This adds to the existing economic and social data such as income, age, occupation, building and agriculture.

The Local Government Area of Melton in Melbourne's west had the fastest average annual growth rate in population from 2004-05 to 2008-09, reaching a population of 100,000 in 2008-09. In this period, there were increases in the number of Baby Bonus recipients (35.8%) and Family Tax Benefit recipients (18.7%) in this area.

To find out more, please visit the publication, as well as the National Regional Profile page of the ABS website.

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Quality Management of Statistical Processes Using Quality Gates, Dec 2010 (cat. no. 1540.0) – released 23/12/10

This information paper provides details on the concept of a quality management initiative called quality gates, aimed at improving statistical processes.

Quality gates are being implemented throughout the ABS to formalise existing processes. Quality gates are designed to improve the early detection of errors or flaws in production processes. They do this through the use of six components: Placement, Quality Measures, Roles, Tolerance, Actions and Evaluation. This paper describes in more detail the quality gates framework to enable its application by other agencies. In particular, the paper provides an explanation of each of the six components of a quality gate, followed by examples and templates.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

Research Paper: Sample Design Frameworks for ABS Household Surveys (Methodology Advisory Committee), Jun 2010 (cat. no. 1352.0.55.108) – released 23/11/10

For many years the sampling framework used for ABS household surveys has been based around a single master sample of geographic areas selected after the five-yearly Population Census. This paper compares some alternative sampling frameworks for ABS household surveys, describing key sample design issues which need to be considered.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

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Research Paper: The Use of Scores to Detect and Prioritise Anomalous Estimates (Methodology Advisory Committee), Nov 2009 (cat. no. 1352.0.55.104) – released 23/11/10

This paper provides an overview of scores used in macro-editing and presents some new scores based on significance criteria. Problems with macro-editing scoring methodologies due to the effect of swamping and masking are discussed. The paper finishes with a summary of findings and recommendations for developing score-based macro-editing for business surveys conducted by the ABS.

To find out more, please visit the publication.

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria, Sep 2010 (cat. no. 1367.2) – released 19/11/10

Data available at the following geographic levels: National; State/Territory; Local Government Area; Statistical Division; Melbourne Metropolitan Area; Major Statistical Region; Tourism Region

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria (SRIV) is a quarterly publication that contains recently released statistical information about Victoria and its regions. Data are sourced from ABS and non-ABS collections. It provides measures according to a triple bottom line of economic, social and environment elements.

The September 2010 issue of SRIV includes:

- Animated Population Pyramids for Victorian Local Government Areas
- Spotlight On: Children's participation in organised sport and dancing, Victoria

A number of regular sections, for example Crime, Work and Income, and Environment, also provide recent Victorian-level data. We encourage you to explore this publication and the range of statistics it offers.

The next issue of SRIV is due for release on 21 February 2011. This will be the final release of SRIV pending the development and implementation of a new national output on the ABS website. The new output, intended for first release in July 2011, will bring together a comparative set of key Population; Social; Economic; Industry; and Environmental indicators for all states and territories. It may also include selected indicators of particular relevance to specific states and territories. Analytical feature articles are expected to be continued and a newsletter section is intended to be integral to the new output.

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Training Courses and Information Seminars

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TRAINING COURSES AND INFORMATION SEMINARS

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DETAILS OF TRAINING COURSES

Venue: ABS Victorian Office, Level 5 South Tower, 485 La Trobe Street, Melbourne.

Time: Full day courses generally run from 9:00am to 4:30pm.

What statistical training courses are available at ABS Victoria?

Analysing Survey Data Made Simple

Turning Data Into Information

Running Your Own Survey

Principles of Questionnaire Design

Making Quality Informed Decisions

Valuing Australia's Environment

Introduction to Labour Statistics

Understanding Demographic Data

Using ABS Datacubes in SuperTABLE

2011 TRAINING CALENDAR



Analysing Survey Data Made Simple

This computer based course develops practical skills in summarising and displaying survey data in graphical and tabular form. It provides the tools for finding simple relationships in survey data and testing for statistically significant differences in past and current survey results.

Cost: \$750

2011 dates: 9-10 March, 17-18 May, 30-31 August

Turning Data Into Information

This course develops skills in interpreting and analysing data, and communicating information clearly and effectively. Analytical thinking skills are developed to enable the transformation of data into meaningful information such as written reports. A key theme of this course is analytical thinking to ensure relevant messages are extracted from data to meet set objectives.

Cost: \$750

2011 dates: 30-31 March, 8-9 June, 8-9 November

Running Your Own Survey

This course aims to provide a broad overview of all facets of survey development. Topics include developing survey objectives, advantages and disadvantages of various collection methodologies, questionnaire design, data processing, reporting of results and management of the design process.

Cost: \$750

2011 date: 4-5 May

Principles of Questionnaire Design

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A well designed questionnaire is vital for collecting high quality data. This course aims to provide participants with an awareness and understanding of questionnaire design principles. The course covers selecting collection methodologies, developing survey questions, designing questionnaire layout and testing the questionnaire.

Cost: \$750

2011 dates: 1-2 June, 23-24 November

Making Quality Informed Decisions

This course introduces the concept of 'holistic quality' through the use of a data quality framework for a statistical collection. The framework ensures that users of statistics are able to assess whether the statistics are fit for their intended use. This course aims to provide a framework to evaluate the quality of available data sources and use this knowledge in the decision-making process.

Cost: \$450

2011 dates: 28 June, 15 November

Valuing Australia's Environment

A course focusing on the emerging discipline of environmental accounting. The course covers reasons for, and conceptual underpinnings of, environmental accounting as framed by the United Nations' "System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting" (SEEA). It also covers practical issues associated with producing these accounts and presents some case studies, both within Australia and internationally. The course would be of interest to people requiring an overview of environmental statistics and their use and/or working in the field of environmental accounting or national accounts.

Cost: \$450

2011 date: 16 June

Introduction to Labour Statistics

This course provides an overview of the range of concepts and issues associated with ABS labour statistics. It explores the data produced by both household and employer based collections, and highlights the range of products available to access labour-related data.

Cost: \$450

2011 date: 19 April

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Understanding Demographic Data

This one-day course introduces participants to demographic data in an international and Australian context. Participants will explore the components of population change (births, deaths, migration) and understand population estimates at the national, state and small area level. At the completion of this course participants will:

- have an understanding of demographic concepts and current issues,
- understand the basic methods of analysing demographic data; and
- be able to access appropriate demographic data on the ABS website.

This course is designed for people who use and/or need to understand demographic data to formulate policies and programs.

Cost: \$450

2011 dates: 26 May, 18 August

Using ABS Databricks in SuperTABLE

The ABS web site has large datasets that can be downloaded for free. This course will teach participants how to access these datasets in SuperTABLE format to create tables that meet their organisation's information needs. Through a combination of theoretical instruction and computer-based exercises, participants will learn how to use the free SuperTABLE software.

Cost: \$300 (runs 9:00am to 12:30pm)

2011 date: 10 May

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on ABS statistical training go to the ABS website <www.abs.gov.au>. Select 'Services' then ABS Training. Course descriptions are available on the ABS Training: Course Profiles page, and registration forms can be downloaded from the ABS Training: Registration and Contacts page. Additional sessions may be scheduled according to demand.

For courses listed above, Esther Cramer (03 9615 7904) is ABS Victoria's training contact, or email queries/registrations to <victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

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Victorian Statistical Leadership Contacts

Editor, Statistics Victoria

Victorian Statistics Advisory Forum

NATIONAL INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE

The National Information and Referral Service (NIRS) is the first point of contact for all your statistical and publication enquiries.

Our consultants have been trained in the range of statistical data and information that is produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), and for straightforward queries, they are able to provide free information and data to you over the phone.

Phone: 1300 135 070

Fax: 1300 135 211

ABS VICTORIAN OFFICE

There is an ABS Office in every capital city. The ABS Office in Victoria is located on Level 5, South Tower, 485 LaTrobe Street, Melbourne. To email the Regional Director or Statistical Leadership contacts listed below, use <victoria.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

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VICTORIAN STATISTICS ADVISORY FORUM (VSAF)

The purpose of Victorian Statistics Advisory Forum is to act as the key collaborative forum for consultation between the Victorian Government and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) with the aim of furthering the use of statistics and developing statistical capability across Victoria.

The Victorian Statistics Advisory Forum's objectives are to:

- strategically and collaboratively determine the statistical needs that support Victorian whole-of-government policy priorities to provide clear direction to the broader ABS and the State and Territory Statistical Services forward work program;
- promote the value and effective use of quality statistical information and infrastructure to support evidence based policy decisions; and
- encourage dialogue within and across State Government agencies to develop and share information on statistical developments and to disseminate statistical best practice.

VSAF meets quarterly each year. The next meeting is on March 10, 2011. The following people are current departmental representatives for the forum:

VSAF Chair

Ms Mary Cavar

Department of Treasury and Finance

Mr Peter Froutzis

Department of Premier and Cabinet

Mr Michael Krien (interim representative)

Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development

Ms Daniela Sekirski

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Dr Sara Glover

Department of Health

Dr Connie Spinoso

Department of Human Services

Mr Nigel Brand

Department of Justice

Dr Jonathon Spear

Department of Transport

Mr Philip Norman

Department of Planning and Community Development

Dr Tim Patton

Department of Sustainability and Environment

Ms Elizabeth Thomas

Department of Primary Industries

(awaiting appointment of new representative)

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Victoria

Mr Lane Masterton

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